

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

Commission on Service and Volunteerism

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Commission on Service and Volunteerism

Quick look...

- Governed by 19 voting members, including 15 that are appointed by the Governor and four designees from four state agencies.
- Total of ten staff members currently, including the Executive Director.
- Total budget: \$29.2 million over the biennium.
 - Sources of the budget: GRF (4.7%), federal grants (95.2%), and state non-GRF (0.1%).
 - GRF funding of \$685,000 in FY 2024 and \$694,000 in FY 2025.
 - Increase of 48.8% in federal grants in FY 2024 and 0.2% in FY 2025.

Fund Group	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
General Revenue	\$479,804	\$584,386	\$685,000	\$694,000
Dedicated Purpose	\$25,801	\$30,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
Federal	\$8,871,183	\$9,322,331	\$13,868,066	\$13,897,793
Total	\$9,376,789	\$9,936,717	\$14,566,066	\$14,604,793
% change	--	6.0%	46.6%	0.3%
<i>GRF % change</i>	--	21.8%	17.2%	1.3%

Agency overview

The mission of the Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism (ServeOhio) is to strengthen Ohio’s communities through service and volunteerism. ServeOhio was created as a result of the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, which also created the AmeriCorps Program. The Act created state offices such as ServeOhio to receive and administer the grant funds associated with the program. ServeOhio also focuses on volunteer engagement and recognition, national charitable service days, and the annual ServeOhio Conference. ServeOhio’s governing authority consists of 19 voting members. ServeOhio currently has ten full-time employees who carry out day-to-day activities.

Analysis of FY 2024-FY 2025 budget

Summary of appropriations

The Commission’s budget consists of three appropriation line items (ALLs), one of which is supported by the General Revenue Fund (GRF), one by a Dedicated Purpose Fund (DPF), and one by a federal fund. These items are discussed in more detail below.

CSV Operations (ALI 866321)

FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
GRF ALI 866321, CSV Operations					
\$304,551	\$284,553	\$479,804	\$584,386	\$685,000	\$694,000
% change	-6.6%	68.6%	21.8%	17.2%	1.3%

GRF line item 866321, CSV Operations, primarily supports the operating expenses for ServeOhio. ServeOhio manages, monitors, and evaluates funded AmeriCorps Programs, and provides technical assistance to current and potential grantees. ServeOhio also promotes volunteerism and community service efforts across the state and administers volunteer training and recognition, national charitable service days, and the annual ServeOhio Conference. In addition to this line item, operating support also comes from federal funds deposited into the AmeriCorps Program Fund (Fund 3R70) and expended out of line item 866617. The federal government generally provides a dollar for every one dollar the state spends on operating costs; so basically, a 50-50 arrangement exists.

ServeOhio Support (ALI 866605)

FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
Fund 5GN0 ALI 866605, ServeOhio Support					
\$11,547	\$14,638	\$25,801	\$30,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
% change	26.8%	76.3%	16.3%	-56.7%	0.0%

This line item supports the Annual Conference on Service and Volunteerism, the ServeOhio Awards Program, and National Days of Service Mini-Grants. The purpose of the conference is to develop skills and to provide networking opportunities for professionals in volunteer organizations. The awards program was established to recognize individuals and organizations that have made volunteer contributions to their state and community. The National Days of Service Mini-Grants support community service projects and are awarded to nonprofit organizations for projects on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Global Youth Service Day, ServeOhio Day, and Make a Difference Day. In addition, a portion of this line item is used as state match for certain activities. Donations from corporate sponsors and conference fees are deposited into Fund 5GN0, OCSV Gifts and Donations, and provide the funding to support the appropriation in line item 866605.

AmeriCorps Programs (ALI 866617)

FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Appropriation	FY 2025 Appropriation
Fund 3R70 ALI 866617, AmeriCorps Programs					
\$7,916,339	\$8,169,351	\$8,871,183	\$9,322,331	\$13,868,066	\$13,897,793
% change	3.2%	8.6%	5.1%	48.8%	0.2%

This line item primarily supports the AmeriCorps Program. Revenues for Fund 3R70, AmeriCorps Programs, come from federal grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service. Over 90% of these revenues are distributed to AmeriCorps grant recipients. The remaining revenue primarily consists of funds to provide the federal share of ServeOhio's operating expenses, including an annual Commission Support Grant, Training and Technical Assistance Grant, as well as a Volunteer Generation Fund Grant. The core amount of pass-through funding a state receives is determined by a formula, which is based on a state's population. States may also receive additional funding through a competitive process, which is based on program quality.

Since its inception in 1994, AmeriCorps has focused on the idea of local control. Hence, the potential subgrantees for funds are required to solicit community input to determine the most pressing local needs that could be addressed by an AmeriCorps project. New subgrantees are also required to provide 24% of project costs. This amount gradually increases to up to 50% for those subgrantees that receive grants year after year.

AmeriCorps projects focus on economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, and healthy futures. AmeriCorps members receive a stipend for living expenses. Upon completion of their terms of service, members receive a post-service educational award for college or technical training (presently \$6,495 for full-time members). This can be used to repay student loans or to pay for future education. In addition, some senior members may transfer this educational award to another qualified recipient (i.e., child or grandchild). The educational award is provided through a federal trust fund, not through program dollars.